

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COPENH 04143 261538Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00
ARA-10 /122 W
-----045424 261545Z /53

P R 261433Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6752
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 4143

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC
EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, RH, DA
SUBJ: READOUT ON NKOMO'S VISIT TO DENMARK, JUNE 21-24
(REF: (A) COPENHAGEN 3737 (NOTAL); (B) COPENHAGEN 4114(NOTAL);
(C) 77 COPENHAGEN 5693.
SUMMARY: PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADER JOSHUA NKOMO TOLD DANES ZAPUIS WIL-
LING TO ATTEND A ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE OF ALL PARTIES BUT THAT HE
IS SKEPTICAL OF ANY PRODUCTIVE RESULTS. HE PREDICTS THE FIGHTING
WILL HAVE TO CONTINUE. NKOMO'S OFTEN HARSH REMARKS WERE INTERPRETED
IN MORE MODERATE TONES BY HIS ASSOCIATES WHO TOLD THE DANES THAT
ZAPU'S REAL PROBLEM WITH THE ANGOLO-AMERICAN PLAN IS THE "POLICE
ISSUE." THE DANES WERE STARTLED BY NKOMO'S HOSTILITY TO THE WEST,
BUT NEVERTHELESS COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO SLIGHTLY INCREASED FINAN-
CIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. END SUMMARY.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 COPENH 04143 261538Z

1. MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR OLE BIERRING CALLED IN THE AMB TO BRIEF
HIM ON ZAPU LEADER JOSHUA NKOMO'S VISIT TO DENMARK JUNE 21-24.
AMB PREVIOUSLY PASSED INFO CONTAINED IN STATE 135944 TO KEY DANISH
OFFICIALS WHO HAD CONTACT WITH NKOMO.) DURING HIS VISIT AS GUEST OF
THE GOVERNING SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, NKOMO SAW FORMIN K.B.
ANDERSEN, DEP FORMIN LISE OSTERGAARD, AND THE HEAD OF THE DANISH AID.
2. BIERRING WAS NOT PRESENT DURING NKOMO'S BRIEF COURTEST CALL ON

FONMIN ANDERSEN BUT WAS TOLD THAT NKOMO WAS "MORE RELAXED AND FORTHCOMING" THAN HE WAS IN HIS SUBSEQUENT 90-MIN MEETING WITH DEP. FONMIN OSTERGAARD WHICH BIERRING DID ATTEND.

3. BIERRING SAID NKOMO PAINTED A DISCOURAGING PICTURE. NKOMO STATED THAT ZAPU IS WILLING TO ATTEND A ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE WITH ALL PARTIES BUT THAT HE FORESEES THE TIME APPROACHING WHEN TALKS WILL SERVE NO PURPOSE AND, THUSE, THE FIGHTING WILL HAVE TO GO ON.

4. NKOMO VOLUNTEERED HIS PERCEPTIONS OF THE WESTERN POSITON ON ZIMBABAWE AND SOUTH AFRICA, SAYING THAT THE WEST HAD BEEN TOO SLOW IN MEETING AFRICAN DEMANDS. NOW THE WEST'S SOLUTIONS ARE LAST MINUTE ATTEMPTS TO ESTABLISH "INDPENDENCE OF A SPECIAL BRAND": THAT IS, THE SOLUTIONS ARE AIMED ONLY AT KEEPING THE NEW INDEPENDENT STATES UNDER WESTERN CONTROL.

5. BIERRING REMARKED THAT THE DANES WERE "SHOCKED" BY NKOMO'S IDEOLOGICAL DIATRIBES AGAINST THE WEST. DEP FONMIN OSTERGAARD TRIED TO SET NKOMO STRAIGHT ON THE WESTERN ATTITUDES AND EXPLAINED AS WELL DANISH AID POLICY, NKOMO THEN "BACKED DOWN" SOMEWHAT.

6. THE OTHER ZAPU MEMBERS ACCOMPANYING NKOMO TOOK A MORE MODERATE TONE AND TRIED IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS TO PLAY DOWN NKOMO'S REMARKS. PARTICULARLY ZAPU'S VICE PRESIDENT, CHINENGA, ATTEMPTED TO CORRECT THE IMPRESSION HIS CHIEF HAD LEFT. BIERRING ASKED THEM ABOUT ZAPU'S REAL PROBLEM WITH THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN. HE WAS TOLD, "THE POLICE." ZAPU OBJECTS TO THE POLICE BEING GIVEN FREE REIN SHOULD THE INTERNAL FORCES BE DIMILITARIZED AND THE EXTERNAL GUERRILLAS DISARMED. ZAPU ACCEPTS THE EXISTENCE OF THE POLICE FORCE BUT WANTS EITHER EACH POLICEMAN TO BE SECONDED BY A GUERRILLA OR THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 COPENH 04143 261538Z

ENTIRE FORCE TO BE SUPERVISED BY A SPECIAL BRANCH OF THE UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE. BIERRING OBSERVED THAT NKOMO HIMSELF HAD NOT MENTIONED THIS IT ALL.

7. NKOMO COMPLAINED THAT DANISH ASSISTANCE TO ZAPU IS NOT VISIBLE ENOUGH. ZAPU WANTS THE MONEY CHanneled TO IT DIRECTLY RATHER THAN THROUGH VARIOUS HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS. OSTERGAARD EXPLAINED THAT DOMESTIC POLITICAL PRESSURES PREVENT THE DANISH GOVT FROM DOING AS NKOMO WISHES.

8. FORMIN ANDERSEN ASKED NKOMO FOR HIS VIEWS ON CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA. NKOMO RIDICULED THE WESTERN FEAR OF THE CUBAN PRESENCE (SEE REF B FOR NKOMO'S PUBLIC STATEMENTS RE THE CUBANS). NEVERTHELESS, NKOMO MADE A POINT OF ASSURING THE DANES THAT ZAPU INTENDS TO FIGHT ITS LIBERATION WAR ON ITS OWN, WITHOUT EXTERNAL SUPPORT. NKOMO SAID THAT OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES HAD OFFERED TO SEND THEIR YOUNG MEN TO SUPPLEMENT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT FORCES, BUT THAT HE HAD DECLINED THE OFFER.

9. BIERRING CLOSED BY SAYING THAT NKOMO HAD SEEMED "TIRED AND DISILLUSIONED," AND THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO SHARE THE BRITISH VIEW OF HIM AS THE STRONGEST BLACK LEADER ON THE RHODESIAN SCENE. BIERRING ADDED THAT, CONTRARY TO HIS EXPECTATIONS, NKOMO HAD COME ACCROSS AS FAR MORE RADICAL THAN ZANU LEADER ROBERT MUGABE WHO VISITED HERE LAST SEPT (REF C). FURTHERMORE, DESPITE NKOMO'S

TRUCULENCE, HIS OFTEN INCOHERENT REMARKS LEFT AN IMPRESSION OF WEAKNESS.

10. COMMENT: THE DANES WERE CLEARLY UNCOMFORTABLE WITH NKOMO'S BLUSTERING. NEVERTHELESS, DESPITE PROBLEMS WITH NKOMO'S STYLE, THEY REMAIN COMMITTED TO MODEST ASSISTANCE TO ZIMBABWE. OF THIS YEAR'S REQUESTED 14.9 MILLION KRONER APPROPRIATION FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD, THE DANES HAVE ALLOTTED 1.7 MILLION (APPROX US \$300,000) FOR ZIMBABWE. THE MONEY COMES FROM A SO-CALLED "APARTHEID FUND" APPROPRIATION WHICH IS MEANT TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO AFRICAN "FREEDOM FIGHTERS." THE ASSISTANCE IS ALLOCATED AMONG THE LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE, THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES AND SEVERAL UN PROGRAMS. EXCEPT FOR THE DIRECT GRANT TO THE UN, THE FUNDS ARE TRANSLATED INTO GOODS DISTRIBUTED BY THE TWO RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 COPENH 04143 261538Z

TO DESTITUTE BLACKS IN ZIMBABWE AS WELL AS ZIMBABWAN REFUGEES IN MOZAMBIQUE, ZAMBIA, AND BOTSWANA. DEAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978COPENH04143
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780264-1057
Format: TEL
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780621/aaaaasjn.tel
Line Count: 138
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 89251782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2214069
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: READOUT ON NKOMO'S VISIT TO DENMARK, JUNE 21-24 (REF: (A) COPENHAGEN 3737 (NOTAL); (B) COPENHAGEN 4114(NOTAL); (C) 77 COPENHAGEN 5693.
TAGS: PINS, RH, DA
To: STATE USEEC
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/89251782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014